



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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January 4, 2018

TO: Directors, Exceptional Children
Exceptional Children Coordinators
Directors, State Operated Programs
Directors, Residential Facilities
Directors, Private Schools
Chief Administrator, Homeschool

FROM: William J. Hussey *WJH*

SUBJECT: ANNUAL REGISTRATION OF LEGALLY BLIND STUDENTS NOW OPEN

The annual registration of students who qualify as legally blind is now open. The Annual Registration of Legally Blind Students is used to calculate the amount of Federal Quota Funds designated for the purchase of educational materials for eligible students through the American Printing House for the Blind. Students in public and private schools, including home schools, are eligible to participate in this program. To be considered eligible students must meet the following requirements:

1. Student enrollment in the LEA as of January 1, 2018;
2. Written Education Plan, such as an IEP, 504 Plan, or any other written action plan;
3. Current Eye Report within the past 3 years from an
 - (a.) ophthalmologist or optometrist, which indicates the student meets the definition of blindness (i.e., central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting glasses or a peripheral field so contracted that the widest diameter of such field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees), or
 - (b.) neurologist, which includes the Functions at the Definition of Blindness (FDB) classification; Please note that school systems are responsible for maintaining up to date records in the case a federal or state audit occurs.

As reported in the November 2017 APH memo, registration procedures have changed and include the following required components:

1. EC Director Assurance & Acknowledgement Form;
2. Parental Consent to Release Student Information Form; and
3. Online registration platform for data submission.

The forms referenced above are attached for your convenience. If you have not completed the EC Director Assurance and Acknowledgement form, it must be signed and the original document mailed to Amy Campbell at NCDPI 6356 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-6356. The parental consent form is to be kept on file in the LEA. Please do not send the parental consent form to NC DPI. To access the online registration please visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q75V8QG>. Registration opens today, January 4, 2018, and closes February 15, 2018.

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

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6356 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6356 | (919) 807-3969 | Fax (919) 807-3243

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

If your LEA has no qualifying students, email Amy Campbell, Education Consultant for Visual Impairment, at ncaph@dpi.nc.gov and state your LEA name along with the phrase, “No Eligible Students.”

For access to all information regarding the Annual Legally Blind Registration please visit: <http://ncaphregistry.ncdpi.wikispaces.net/2018+Annual+Registration>.

Please note that the Annual Registration of Legally Blind Students is different from the Deaf-Blind Census. However, a student may qualify for both if the appropriate criteria is met. Information about the Deaf-Blind Census will be distributed in February 2018.

WJH/SV/ac

attachments